

Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1942.

C. D. OUTRED, D.P.H., M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P., L.D.S. (ENG.)

Cheltenham Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT,
1942.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Cheltenham
Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1942. The Report itself is abbreviated and retains only essential features and such figures as may be necessary for purposes of record and comparison.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. D. OUTRED,

(Acting) Medical Officer of Health.

Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the (acting) Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1942.

Population 19,770.

Area in acres, 81,940.

Number of inhabited houses (December, 1942), according
to Rate books, 5,301.

Rateable value £115,266.

Yield of one penny rate, £471 3s. 1d.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

		Males.		Females.		
Legitimate	...	224	...	199	...	423
Illegitimate	...	25	...	22	...	47
						—
Total	...	249	...	221	...	470

BIRTHS.

STILL BIRTHS.

		Males.		Females.		
Legitimate	...	3	...	8	...	11
Illegitimate	...	—	...	1	...	1
		—		—		—
Total	...	3	...	9	...	12

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, 23·7.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

		Males.		Females.		
Legitimate	...	5	...	4	...	9
Illegitimate	...	1	...	1	...	2
		—		—		—
Total	...	6	...	5	...	11

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000
Live Births, 23·4.

DEATHS.

Nett Deaths, 234 (Males 114, Females 120).

Death Rate per 1,000 population **11·8**, ninety-three deaths being transferred in, and eighteen deaths belonging to other districts were transferred to their own areas, of these eight were non-civilians.

The causes of death were certified as follows :—

DISEASE.						Males.	Females.
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Syphilis Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Cancer,	{ Bucc	...	...	...	...	1	1
	{ Uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—
Stomach and Duodenal	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	8	12
Intra cranial and vascular diseases	...	...	...	...	...	11	17
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	33	24
Other diseases of the Vasculatory System	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenal	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	3	9
Other Natural causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Congenital Malformation	{ Injury at Birth, etc.					3	2
Suicide							
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Violent Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	14	19
Total						114	120

Fourteen per cent. of the total deaths were from Cancer, or **1·6** per 1,000 population.

Deaths from Tuberculosis **·7** per 1,000 population.

Infectious Diseases notified during 1942.

Measles, 198 ; Scarlet Fever, 32 ; Whooping Cough, 21 :
Diphtheria, 4 ; Erysipelas, 2 ; Pneumonia, 6 ; Puerperal
Pyrexia, 2.

Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis).

		AGE PERIODS AFFECTED.								
		Under 5 years of Age.	5 and under 15 years of Age.	15 and under 25 years of Age.	Over 25 years of Age.				Total No.	
Diphtheria		—	...	2	...	—	...	2	...	4
Erysipelas	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	1	...	2
Pneumonia	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	6	...	6
Scarlet Fever		5	...	18	...	2	...	7	...	32
Measles	...	63	...	113	14	—	...	8	...	198

Thirty-seven persons were removed to Hospitals for
isolation.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number on the Register at the end of Year 1942 :

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.				
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
54	40	94	15	13	28	122	
					Total	...	122

Number notified during the Year 1942 :

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
12	8	20	1	2	3
					<hr/>
				Total	...
					23

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

No. of children known to be immunised in the age groups
31st Dec., 1942 :—

Under 5 years of age.			5 and under 15 years of age.		
725	...	42 %	1688	...	69 %

Percentage of the population at those age groups.

FOR COMPARISON THE RATES OF ENGLAND AND WALES,
AND COUNTY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE, Birth and Death Rates
are given below.

	England and Wales.	County of Gloucestershire.	Cheltenham Rural District Council.
Birth Rate ... (Per 1,000 population).	15·8	18·1	23·7
Death Rate ... (Per 1,000 population).	11·6	11·8	11·8
Infantile Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births).	49	38	23·4

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1942.

The following particulars have been submitted to me by
Mr. E. H. Rosser, the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during 1942.

- 1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for
housing defects (under Public Health or Housing
Acts) 39
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 55
- 2 (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under
sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and
recorded under the Housing Consolidated
Regulations, 1925 3
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state
so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit
for human habitation 2
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those
referred to under the preceding sub-head) found
not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human
habitation 25

II. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit
in consequence of informal action by Local
Authority or their Officers 25

III. Action under Statutory Powers during Year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the
Housing Act, 1936 0

I. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring repairs 0

(II.) Number of dwelling houses which were
rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(I.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring defects to be
remedied 0

(II.) Number of dwelling houses in which defects
were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 15 of the Housing
Acts, 1936 :—

(I.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made 2

(II.) Number of dwelling houses demolished in
pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act,
1936 :—

(I.) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(II.) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Nuisances discovered or reported	...	...	...	...	85
Complaints not justified	...	...	...	...	12
Informal notices sent	...	...	...	...	73
Statutory notices sent	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	70
Summons issued	...	...	...	...	0
Convictions obtained	...	...	...	...	0
Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	47
Premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	19

IV. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(I.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(II.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	12

Owing to the large influx of evacuees and war workers into the district, both official and unofficial, all available housing accommodation was taken, and there is no doubt that many cases of overcrowding occurred, which, even if the Local Authority had been aware of, would have been unable to take any action. The changing population makes it difficult to keep any record.

V. WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of private supplies to houses improved	...	3
Number of premises connected to public mains	...	42
Number of samples taken during the year	...	30

During the year the Council's supplies were augmented by the completion of the No. 1 Area Scheme and springs at Postlip. The former yield a dry weather flow of 140,000 gallons per day, and the latter 60,000. The cost of the works totalled £33,468. Further improvements to the distribution scheme were commenced at the end of the year at an estimated cost of £2,277. Repeated demands from Military Authorities resulted in work being commenced at Stanway to pick up further springs, and this work, together with proposed extension of mains, was estimated to cost £6,700.

VI. INSPECTION OF FOODSTUFFS.

(a) Meat and other Foods.

Owing to centralisation no regular slaughtering has been carried out in this area. A few emergency slaughters of pigs took place, and these were inspected in the normal manner.

A number of inspections of shops were made, and a total of 14 cwt. 1 qr. 18½ lb. of tinned and other foodstuffs were condemned.

(b) Milk and Dairies.

Thirty-two samples of milk were taken during the year for the purpose of ascertaining the standard of cleanliness.

During the year 166 inspections of dairy premises were made, and the majority of these being at the time of milking.

Two Statutory Notices were served and, as a result of conditions observed at one premises in December, the Council later decided to take Police Court proceedings and cancel the retail licence of the purveyor.

(c) Bakehouses, etc.

Two visits were paid to Bakehouses, and no fault found with conditions.

(d) Factories and Workshops.

Twenty-one visits were paid to Factories and Workshops. One canning factory caused serious pollution of the stream by the discharge of wastes, and this became a matter of discussion between the owners and the Ministry of Health and the Council.

